



BY E. B. MURRAY & CO.

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A DUEL TO THE DEATH.

Col. Wm. M. Shannon Killed by Col. E. B. C. Cash. The Fatal Encounter Taken Place at Darlington, S. C., on the 11th Inst. The Challenging Party and the First to Fire, but Both Through the Heart—The Origin of the Difficulty.

Charleston News and Courier.

CAMDEN, S. C., July 6. News was received here this morning of a fatal duel, which took place at 2 o'clock yesterday, at DuBose's Bridge, in Darlington County, between Col. E. B. C. Cash of Charleston, and Col. Wm. M. Shannon of this place, in which the latter was instantly killed. Col. Shannon was the challenging party. Col. Cash being dead in one ear requested that the signal to fire be given by the discharge of a pistol, which was agreed to. Col. Shannon fired first, his ball striking the ground near Col. Cash's feet. Col. Cash then fired, the ball passing through Col. Shannon's heart. Death was instantaneous. Our whole community feels the shock. It was uncalculated. The funeral will take place from the Episcopal Church, of which he was a member, at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

The origin of the duel was as follows: Col. Shannon was assistant counsel for Capt. W. L. DePass in a case entitled *C. M. Wiegman vs. A. E. Cash*, for damages for injuries to the person of Wiegman, for which he obtained a judgment. R. G. Ellerbe claimed that he was largely indebted to his sister, the wife of Col. Cash, and on that ground resisted the payment of the judgment. Col. Shannon, contending that what he owed his sister exhausted his property. The attorneys for Wiegman prayed for an injunction to set aside the judgment in favor of Mrs. Cash, and it was from the pleadings in this case that all the difficulties have grown.

Col. Cash first challenged W. L. DePass, who with his second, arrested and put under heavy bonds. I learn that Col. Cash and several communications have been made to Col. Cash, to Col. Shannon, insisting that efforts be made in the pleadings to reflect on the character of his now deceased wife for honesty. Both of the attorneys deny ever having written such a letter. Col. Shannon has always, since the case has been in court, utterly denied having made any offensive remark or having the least intention of reflecting on Mrs. Cash.

COL. WILLIAM M. SHANNON.

William M. Shannon was born in Lenoir County in 1822, and was consequently 58 years of age at the time of his death. He was a prominent citizen of the county, and for many years president of the Camden Branch of the Bank of the State. Col. Shannon was educated at the South Carolina College, which he entered in 1839, graduating in the class of 1841. Soon after leaving college he commenced the study of the law and was admitted to the bar with the class of 1843, in which were Thos. M. Hanks, John W. Alden, John C. Calhoun, C. Burkmyer, the late John E. Carey, and others, from Charleston. He married the daughter of Governor Adam McWille, who was at one time a prominent citizen of Camden, and subsequently removed to Mississippi, of which State he was later in life elected Governor.

In the pursuit of his profession Col. Shannon soon rose to prominence. In 1857 he was elected to represent Kershaw County in the General Assembly, and served in that capacity until 1862, when he resigned and entered the Confederate service. During his term of office, and especially during the Speaker's term of the House, Col. Shannon, and Gen. McGowan, who was his associate in college, were two of the leading members of the House.

At the outbreak of the war he raised a cavalry company and entered the Confederate service in Virginia. He was raised another cavalry company and served in North Carolina. Upon the death of his father, in 1864, he succeeded him as president of the bank at Camden. Col. Shannon was the father of fourteen children, and was a devoted and successful farmer. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and was a man of great industry and energy, and has for many years occupied a position of prominence at the bar of Camden. All who knew him will regret the loss of his services, and the loss of the prominent traits which were one of the prominent traits of his character. He enjoyed the entire confidence of the people of Camden and Kershaw County, and was for many years one of the most popular men of that section of the State. He was a man of great industry and energy, and has for many years occupied a position of prominence at the bar of Camden. All who knew him will regret the loss of his services, and the loss of the prominent traits which were one of the prominent traits of his character.

Col. E. B. C. Cash. Col. Shannon's antagonist in the fatal duel, Col. E. B. C. Cash, is a planter in Chesterfield County, near Cash's Depot, a station on the Cheraw and Darlington Railroad, and was for many years in command of a regiment in Bonham's Brigade, in Virginia, in the first year of the war, and was a fearless if not an accomplished officer.

THE ORIGIN OF THE FATAL QUARREL.

The quarrel which has resulted in the death of Col. Shannon grew out of an action for damages for injuries to the person of Wiegman against Capt. R. G. Ellerbe who, on account of some personal differences, and assaulted and beaten him. The jury gave a verdict for \$2,000 in favor of Wiegman, who was unable to recover the amount, the property of Capt. Ellerbe being encumbered by a judgment upon a mortgage given to Mrs. E. B. Cash, who was Ellerbe's sister. Wiegman insisted on the ground of fraud, his attorney, Col. Wm. M. Shannon and Capt. W. L. DePass, of Camden, charging that the "pretended confession of judgment" had been made by Ellerbe to "his own sister," Mrs. E. B. Cash, and that the family arrangement, Ellerbe "intends to defeat the recovery by the plaintiff."

THE FIRST DEMAND.

Pending the legal proceedings no action appears to have been taken by Capt. Ellerbe or Col. Cash, but on May 22 the latter, by Capt. DePass the following challenge:

KERSHAW CO., S. C., May 22. Capt. W. L. DePass, Camden, S. C.: Sir—In a case entitled "C. M. Wiegman vs. A. E. Cash and others," in which you are attorney for the plaintiff, and I am charged with fraud, and although the copy of your summons and complaint served upon Mrs. Cash's attorney differs from the original, upon which you obtained an injunction, yet your whole course in the management of the case clearly shows that you did mean to impute fraud to Mrs. Cash, and I suspect that your object in withdrawing the most offensive portions in the original was to shift the responsibility you had not the courage to meet.

I regret very much my inability to act

in this matter at an earlier day, but to do so would have subjected me to the charge of misrepresentation and, perhaps, prejudiced Mrs. Cash's claims before the courts. As you have abandoned your charge of fraud, I now feel free to act in my own self-defense, and to let the time being, and to accomplish the object, I have in view, I waive all objections, and demand of you a redress for the false imputations you have made against my sister, and in every instance, Mr. W. B. Sanders, will make use of the usual preliminaries for a meeting.

E. B. C. CASH.

The response of Capt. DePass was as follows:

CAMDEN, S. C., May 24, 1880.

Col. E. B. C. Cash:

Sir—Your note of the 22d instant was handed to me by Mr. W. B. Sanders, and I take the earliest practicable opportunity of replying to it. It is couched in language unwarranted by the Code of Honor among gentlemen, in that it conveys an insult, and I could most properly return it to you, but I waive this and will arrange with your friend, Mr. W. B. Sanders, for a meeting.

W. L. DEPASS.

Both Capt. DePass and Mr. Legare were arrested, and an attempt was made to force a meeting between them. Mr. Blair was substituted by Capt. DePass for Mr. Legare, and arrangements were made for a meeting in North Carolina, but Capt. DePass was again arrested and the fight did not take place.

CASH PUBLISHES DEPASS.

Col. Cash published the correspondence in a circular with the following letter:

CASH'S DEPORT, S. C., June 5.

In pursuance of the above, my friends, Mr. W. B. Sanders and Col. Richard C. Watts, have done all in their power to put about a meeting between Capt. DePass and myself, but in every instance have failed to accomplish their purpose. Different times and places have been agreed upon for a meeting, but before getting the grounds selected, or after getting on the grounds and waiting long upon hour, we have been notified by the friends of Capt. DePass that "Capt. DePass has been arrested, or arrested again, and cannot fight."

Col. DePass, when the challenge was sent, and his reply received, I came out of Kershaw, passed through Sumter, Darlington, Chesterfield, and into Anson County, N. C., the place appointed for the meeting, and on the morning of the 11th, I was on the grounds, and waiting long upon hour, we have been notified by the friends of Capt. DePass that "Capt. DePass has been arrested, or arrested again, and cannot fight."

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ground; these, Col. Watts informed me, were not of Gen. Cash's party, but persons who had come out to witness the spectacle, as the people all along the way had come to know the place and hour of the meeting, and Gen. Cash had with difficulty escaped arrest on the way. The same information was given to me subsequently by Gen. Cash. As soon as I arrived on the ground I called Col. Watts aside and acquainted him with the fact of your arrest and cause of your arrest. He seemed, as a lawyer, to consider the arrest illegal, and said that you could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for that purpose, and taking on the moment his own view of the matter, that it could not be attended with any pecuniary risk to Gen. Cash, I promptly accepted the romantic and chivalrous proposal; but Col. Watts requested time to consult Gen. Cash, and he could not be held on the ground of the purpose of our meeting without pecuniary risk to your securities, and in fine, he proposed that Gen. Cash should be your security for